Maine State Library
Maine State Documents

Library Documents | Library

1-2014

Genealogy Notes from Emily January 2014

Maine State Library

Emily Schroeder
Information and Reader Services, Maine State Library, Emily.Schroeder@maine.gov

Follow this and additional works at: http://statedocs.maine.gov/msl_docs

Recommended Citation
Maine State Library and Schroeder, Emily, "Genealogy Notes from Emily January 2014" (2014). *Library Documents*. Paper 3.
http://statedocs.maine.gov/msl_docs/3

This Document is brought to you for free and open access by the Library at Maine State Documents. It has been accepted for inclusion in Library Documents by an authorized administrator of Maine State Documents. For more information, please contact statedocs@maine.gov.

Maine State Library
Office of Reader and Information Services

Genealogy Notes from Emily

Volume 4 Issue 1

January 2014

emily.schroeder@maine.gov

Websites to Remember:

- MSL Genealogy – www.maine.gov/msl/services/genealogy/index.shtml
- Vital Records Researcher Card- www.maine.gov/dhhs/forms.shtml
- MSL Classes- www.maine.gov/msl/services/classes.shtml
- Maine Genealogical Society – http://maineroots.org

Maine State Library
64 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Hours
M, W and Th: 9-6
Tues: 9-7
Fri: 9-5
Sat: 9-2

Tel. 207-287-5600
Website:
www.maine.gov/msl/
~

News for the New Year!

Happy 2014! There are a few newsworthy items that I'd like to pass on to you as we begin a new year. I subscribe to a blog called, appropriately enough, "Genealogy Blog", and it provided a few things that you might be interested in. The first: FamilySearch has added over 4.1 million indexed records and images from Belgium, Portugal, Canada and the USA. If you're doing Maine cemetery research, you'll be glad to know that this includes over 350,000 browsable images from the "Nathan Hale Cemetery Collection, ca. 1780-1980". The second announcement has to do with the Social Security Death Index.: as of March 26, 2014, deaths cannot be reported on the publicly-accessible SSDI until 3 years after the fact. According to Judy G. Russell's article "SSDI Access Now Limited", as filed on *The Legal Genealogist* on December 30, 2013, the idea behind it is the purported savings of $60 billion in fraud. Identity theft and the filing of false tax returns would be thwarted, and anyone who needs the information would be

required to pay for it, somehow. The good news: it's highly unlikely that any online provider will pull what's already "out there". Thirdly, did you know that FamilySearch and Ancestry.com were actually working together? A formal announcement was made Jan. 21st that an additional 1 billion (yes, that's 1 *billion*) records from 67 countries will be available on Ancestry, via the FamilySearch "vault", over the next 5 years. These records are already digitized and indexed, and include over 200 million images. Wow! Closer to home: Maine probate courts are working to put documents online, and have been since 2006. Probate courts are responsible for estates, adoptions, conservatorships, guardianships and name changes. What you will not find are financial and medical documents, and adoptions filed after August 8, 1953, per state law. Do visit this periodically: *www.maineprobate.net* , *and see how things are going! (Thanks to Judy Harrison of Bangor Daily News, for her story filed online Dec. 26, 2013.) More news: the state vital statistics folks have moved from their downtown Augusta digs to 220 Capitol St., next to the Maine State Credit Union building. All phone and fax numbers remain the same, as do staff e-mail addresses. They are pleased with the change, and being able to offer better parking options for all concerned. Until next time, from my file to yours…*

Check Out Our New Equipment!

Maine State Library is now able to serve the public-particularly genealogists-in a much better way, with our newly-equipped computer lab/classroom, microfilm readers and scanners. When you get a chance, take a look! The lab has new laptops, and I'm particularly excited about the SmartBoard, which we're still in the process of learning how to use. The lab also has the electronic gear to allow VHS tapes to be transferred to current formats, and record albums can be downloaded to MP3s. A couple of scanners allow for a similar transformation of printed words and images to something more permanent. Think about all those old documents and family photographs that you've been meaning to scan! We do ask that you bring your own media to download to and give us a call first, but you can do it all here!